Political Bodies

Body Politic

The Semiotics Of Gender

Political Bodies/Body Politic

Darkelle M. Juschka 2014-12-05

‘Political Bodies/Body Politic’ draws on feminism, gender studies, and queer theory to examine how myth, symbol and ritual express belief systems. The book explores the operation of gender in a variety of social and historical contexts, ranging from feminist speculative fiction and systems of belief to popular culture and ancient historical texts. ‘Political Bodies/Body Politic’ makes an original contribution to religious and feminist studies in its examination of gender in human communication and belief systems.

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Darkelle M. Juschka 2014

Body Politics in Development

Wendy Harcourt 2013-04-04

Body Politics in Development sets out to define body politics as a key political and mobilizing force for human rights in the last two decades. This passionate and engaging book reveals how once-tabooed issues, such as rape, gender-based violence, and sexual and reproductive rights, have emerged into the public arena as critical grounds of contention and struggle. Engaging in the latest feminist thinking and action, the book describes the struggles around body politics for people living in economically and socially vulnerable communities and covers a broad range of gender and development issues, including fundamentalism, sexualities and new technologies, from diverse viewpoints. The book’s originality comes through the author's rich experience and engagement in feminist activism and global body politics and was winner of the 2010 FWSA Book Prize.

The Book of the Body Politic

Christine (de Pisan) 1994-09-15

Medieval social/political theory from Christine de Pizan, France's first female professional writer.

Foreign Bodies and the Body Politic

Jonathan Gil Harris 1998-05-07

Jonathan Gil Harris examines the origins of modern discourse of social pathology in Elizabethan and Jacobean medical and political writing. Plays, pamphlets and political treatises of this period display an increasingly xenophobic tendency to attribute England's ills to 'foreign bodies' such as Jews, Catholics and witches, as well as treat their allegedly 'poisonous' features for the health of the body politic. Harris argues that this tendency resonates with two of the distinctive paradigms of Paracelsus' pharmacy which also includes the notion that poison has a medicinal power. The emergence of these paradigms in early modern English political thought signals a decisive shift from Galenic humoral tradition towards twentieth-century politico-medical discourses of 'infection' and 'containment', which, like their early modern predecessors, make mysterious the domestic origins of social conflict and the operations of political authority.

Body Politics

Nadja E. Brown 2020-05-21

The politics of the body is often highly contested, culturally specific, and controlled, and this book calls our attention to how bodies are included or excluded in the polity. With governments regulating bodies in ways that mark the political boundaries of who is a citizen, worthy of protection and rights, as well as those who transgress socially proscribed norms, the contributors to this volume offer a systematic investigation of both theoretical and empirical accounts of bodily differences broadly defined. These chapters, diverse in both the populations and the political behaviours examined, as well as the methodological approaches employed, showcase the significance of body politics in a way few edited works in political science currently do. Arguing that the body is an important site to understand power relations, this book will be of interest to those studying the unequal application of rights to women, racial and ethnic minorities, the LGBTQI community, and people with disabilities. This book was originally published as a special issue of Politics, Groups, and Identities.

Political Bodies and the Body Politic in J.M. Coetzee's Novels

Roman Silvani 2012

J.M. Coetzee's novels can be considered a continued enterprise in figuring and varying the otherness of the human body, which, first and foremost, it comes forward in its vulnerability and pain. Coetzee's fiction offers an understanding that the body is a site upon which politics are played out and made manifest. Political Bodies and the Body Politic in J.M. Coetzee's Novels examines the various manifestations - ugliness, mutilation, cancer, etc. - with regard to the South African body politic. (Series: Transcultural Anthropology Studies - Vol. 3)

Body Politic

A. D. Harvey 2021-02-19

The idea that there is an analogy between the social collective and the human body originated more than twenty-five centuries ago. It was known to Plato and St. Paul, and was adopted by state functionaries in the Middle Ages and Renaissance, and by academics in the Nineteenth Century. In the early Twentieth Century the notion was taken up by military theorists and contributed to the formulation of new tactical and strategic doctrines, and it has resurced again in the IT era. At each stage the idea has been elaborated and given new emphaesises, for two millennia it has been part of the vocabulary in which successive generations have attempted to articulate their developing ideas about society. This book is more than simply a history of a political metaphor however: it is a history of how metaphor may be converted into action. What reviewers said of earlier books by A.D. Harvey: “Collisions of Empire is a vast, complex, and brilliant mosaic; each individual tessera of which is hard-edged and glittering “ Richard Holmes, Times Literary Supplement. “Excellent… [A.D. Harvey] is a master of the concrete, the adroit displayer of the precious scrap of hard fact.” Kathryn Hughes, Daily Telegraph. “Arnold Harvey has written an enigmatic and ecstatic book reflecting on the implications of the idea that society can be seen as a body. He takes us from ancient India to computer hackers, provides quotations rich and strange and explores the by-ways of assassination and aerial warfare. Engrossing.” Prof. Robert Bartlett, Dept. of Mediaeval History, University of St Andrews, St Andrews KY16 9AL, Scotland

A Finger in the Wound

Diane M. Nelson 1999-04

“Nelson brings the insights of postmodern theory to a highly charged situation and offers compelling interpretations of the state's intense ambivalence toward Mayan culture and Mayans. The writing is lively and accessible, the issues current, and the theoretical contributions very important in this study of the heterogeneity and flux of urban national culture.”--Kay B. Warren, author of Indigenous Movements and Their Critics

Rethinking the Body in Global Politics

Kandula Purnell 2021-04-04

This book rethinks the body in global politics and the particular roles bodies play in our international system, foregrounding processes and practices involved in the continually contested (re)embodiment of both human bodies and collective bodies political. Purnell provides a new, innovative, and detailed theory of bodily (re)making and un-making that shows how bodies are simultaneously (re)made and moved and (re)move other bodies and things. Presented in the form of reflective/reflexive and theoretically innovative essays, the book explores: bodies in general and their precarious, excessive, ontologically insecure, and emotional facets; the fleshing out of contemporary necro(body)politics; and the visual-emotional politics embodied through the COVID-19 pandemic. The empirical analyses feed into contemporary IR debates on British and American politics and international relations and the Global War on Terror, while also speaking to broader and interdisciplinary, theoretical literature on bodies/embodiment, visual politics, biopolitics, necropolitics, and affect/emotion, and feelings.

Eroticism and the Body Politic

Lynn Avery Hunt 1991

An American Body-politic

Bernd Herzogenrath 2010

A Reflection on the metaphor of the body politic throughout American history
Queer Democracy - Daniel D. Miller 2021-08-20 Queer Democracy undertakes an interdisciplinary critical investigation of the centuries-old metaphor of society as a body, drawing on queer and transgender accounts of embodiment as a constructive resource for reimaging politics and society. The book challenges concepts of the body politic to rethink politics and society. Gender, sexuality, and corporeality are political and social order, grounded in the social body's imagined normative shape or morphosis. The consistent result, from the 'concord' discourses of the pre-Christian Stoics, all the way through to contemporary nationalism and populism, has been the suppression of any dissent that would unmake the social body's presumed normativity. Miller argues that the conception of embodiment at the heart of the metaphor is a fantasy, and that negative social and political reactions to dissent represent visceral, dysphoric responses to its repositioning of the social body. He argues that social body's essential queerness, defined by fluidity and lack of a fixed morphology, spawns queer democracy, expressed through ongoing social and political practices that aim to extend liberty and equality to new social worlds. Queer Democracy articulates a new departure for the ongoing development of theoretical articulations linking queer and trans theory with political theory. It will appeal to both academic and non-academic readers engaged in research on political theory, populism, US religion, gender studies, and queer studies.

The Body Politic, the Bodies of Women, and the Politics of Famine in U.S. Television Coverage of Famine in the Horn of Africa - Jo Ellen Fair 1996

The Microstate-Stefanie R. Fischel 2017-07-15 For three centuries, concepts of the state have been animated by one of the most powerful metaphors in politics: the body politic, a caustrophic and bounded image of sovereignty. Climate change, neoliberalism, mass migration, and other aspects of the late Anthropocene have increasingly revealed the limitations of this metaphor. Just as the human body is not whole and separate from other bodies—comprising microbes, bacteria, water, and radioactive isotopes—Stefanie R. Fischel argues that the body politic of the state exists in dense entanglement with other communities and forms of life. Drawing on insights from continental philosophy, science and technology studies, and international relations theory, this path-breaking book critiques the concept of the body politic on the grounds of its very materiality. Fischel both refines and extends the metaphor of the body politic and its role in understanding an increasingly posthuman, globalized world politics. By conceiving of bodies and states as lively vessels, living harmoniously with multiplicity and the biosphere, she argues that a new way of understanding social and political effects is required.

The Oxford Handbook of Gender and Politics - Georgia Waylen 2013-02-12 As a field of scholarship, gender and politics has exploded over the last fifty years and is now global, institutionalized, and ever expanding. The Oxford Handbook of Gender and Politics brings to political science an accessible and comprehensive overview of the key contributions of gender scholars to the study of politics and shows how these contributions produce a richer understanding of politics and societies. Like the field it represents, the handbook has a broad understanding of what counts as political and is based on a notion of gender that highlights masculinities as well as femininities. Moving between topics in domestic and international politics, exile, cultural mores, and the medical establishment. New Body Politics participates in the project of bringing gender studies to the political mainstream, engaging with the ways in which gender has characterized the state, the nation, and international relations. New Body Politics participates in a vibrant interdisciplinary conversation about cross-cultural studies, American literature, and Arab American literature. Using intercultural analysis, Pickens explores the relationship between the American Civil War and the war's wounded veterans. While a memoir of the author's gradual political awakening, My Body Politic is filled with adventure, science, and rock and roll—Salvador Dalí, James Brown, and Jimi Hendrix all make cameos appearances. Linton weaves a tale that shows disability to be an ordinary part of the twists and turns of life and, simultaneously, a unique vantage point on the world.
Bodies Politic

Bodies Politic takes a critical look at representations of the body in death, disease, and health, as well as at images of the healing arts in Britain from the mid-seventeenth to the twentieth century. Arguing that great symbolic weight was attached to contrasting conceptions of the healthy and diseased body, Roy Porter shows that such ideas were mapped onto antithetical notions of the good and the bad, the beautiful, and the ugly. Through these images, in mind, he explores aspects of being ill alongside the practice of medicine, paying special attention to self-presentations by physicians, surgeons, and quacks and the changes in practitioners’ public identities over time. Packed with amusing anecdotes and unusual illustrations, this book is a magisterial account of the meanings of disease, doctors, and the “body politic.”

Intimate Justice

In 1973, the year the women’s movement won an important symbolic victory with Roe v. Wade, reports surfaced that twelve-year-old Minnie Lee Relf and her fourteen-year-old sister Mary Alice, the daughters of black Alabama farm hands, had been sterilized without their or their parents’ knowledge or consent. Just as women’s ability to control reproduction was to be a major concern for the feminist movement, the Relf sisters’ plight stood as a reminder of the ways in which the movement’s accomplishments had diverged sharply along racial lines. Thousands of forced sterilizations were performed on black women during this period, convincing activists in the Black Power, civil rights and women’s movements that they needed to address, pointedly, the racial injustices surrounding equal access to reproductive labor and intimate life in America. As horrific as the Relf tragedy was, it fit easily within a set of critical events within black women’s sexual and reproductive history in America, which black feminists argue began with coerced reproduction and enforced child neglect in the period of enslavement. While reproductive rights activists and their organizations, historians and legal scholars have all begun to grapple with this history and its political, theoretical authors have yet to do. Intimate Justice charts the long and still incomplete path to black female intimate freedom and equality—a path marked by infanticides, sexual terrorism, race riots, coerced sterilizations and racially biased child removal policies. In order to challenge prevailing understandings of freedom and equality, Shatema Threadcraft considers the troubled status of black female intimate life during four moments: antebellum slavery, Reconstruction, the nadir, and the rights and women’s movement era. Taking up important and often overlooked aspects of the necessary conditions for justice, Threadcraft’s book is a compelling challenge to the meaning of American race and gender relations.

Political Physics

The book takes the reader on a transversal journey, crossing the boundaries of philosophy and science. Political Physics explores the limits and strengths of Derridean and Deleuzean philosophical approaches. Focusing on their differing approaches to the question of the ‘body politic’ in all its registers, from the physical-chemical body, to the economic, the social and the political body—the book reveals a profound difference in ontological commitment. The book argues that the straightforward materialism of Deleuzean philosophy can operate across the range of analysis whereas Derridean deconstruction effectively operates at the level of reason, consciousness and culture. Cross-cutting a Derridean analysis of the history of philosophy with a Deleuzean approach to creative dialogue and complexity theory, Political Physics illuminates the value of both approaches to the analysis of contemporary culture, politics and science and to the reordering of the history of ideas.

The Politics of Bodies

Heather Brunskill-Evans 2020-10-06 At a time when supposedly enlightened attitudes are championed by the mainstream, philosopher and activist Heather Brunskill-Evans shows how, in plain view under the guise of liberalism, a regressive men’s rights movement is posing a massive threat to the rights of women and children everywhere. This movement is transversal in scope, including the bodies, agency and autonomy of women and children, while asserting men’s rights to bodily intrusion into every social and personal space. In a complete reversal of feminist gender critical analyses, sex and gender are redefined: identity is now called ‘inmate’ (a ‘feeling’ located somewhere in the body) and sexual role is said to be socially constructed (and hence changeable). This ensures a lifetime of drug dependency for transitioners, thereby delivering vast profits for Biog Pharma in a capitalist dream. Everyone, including every trans person, has the right to live freely without discrimination. But the transgender movement has been hijacked by misogynists who are appropriating and inverting the struggles of feminism to deliver an agenda devoid of feminist principles. An eye-opening book.

Physic Political

The book takes the reader on a transversal journey, crossing the boundaries of philosophy and science. Political Physics explores the limits and strengths of Derridean and Deleuzean philosophical approaches. Focusing on their differing approaches to the question of the ‘body politic’ in all its registers, from the physical-chemical body, to the economic, the social and the political body—the book reveals a profound difference in ontological commitment. The book argues that the straightforward materialism of Deleuzean philosophy can operate across the range of analysis whereas Derridean deconstruction effectively operates at the level of reason, consciousness and culture. Cross-cutting a Derridean analysis of the history of philosophy with a Deleuzean approach to creative dialogue and complexity theory, Political Physics illuminates the value of both approaches to the analysis of contemporary culture, politics and science and to the reordering of the history of ideas.

Religious Bodies Politic

The book examines the complex relationship between transnational religion and politics through the lens of one cosmopolitan community in Siberia. Buryats, who live in a semiautonomous republic within Russia with a large Buddhist population. Looking at religious transformation among Buryats across changing political economies, Anya Bernstein argues that under conditions of rapid social change—such as those that accompanied the Russian Revolution, the Cold War, and the fall of the Soviet Union—Buryats have used Buddhist “body politics” to articulate their relationship not only with the Russian state, but also with the larger Buddhist world. During these periods, Bernstein shows, certain people and their bodies became key sites through which Buryats confronted and challenged Russian political rule. She presents particular cases of these emblematic bodies—dead bodies of famous monks, temporary bodies of reincarnated lamas, ecstatic and celibate bodies of Buddhist monastics, and dismembered bodies of lay disciples given as imaginary gifts—to investigate the specific ways in which religion and politics have intersected. Contributing to the growing literature on postsecularism and studies of sovereignty that focus on the growing body, Religious Bodies Political is a fascinating illustration of how this community employed Buddhist approaches to adapt to key moments of political change.

American Body Politics

The book focuses on the challenges women face when their externally defined identities and representations as bodies—their body fictions—speak louder than what they know to be their lived experience. As objects of interpretation, ‘female bodies’ in search of health care, legal assistance, professional respect, identity confirmation, and financial security must first confront the fictionalized duals. This volume includes reflections on women’s day to day lives, as well as the cultural production (literature, MTV, film etc.) that give body fictions their powerful influence. By exploring how these fictions are manipulated politically, expressively and communally, contributors offer reinterpretations that challenge the fictional double while theorizing the discursive and performative forms that it takes.

Transgender Body Politics

Heather Brunskill-Evans 2020-10-06 At a time when supposedly enlightened attitudes are championed by the mainstream, philosopher and activist Heather Brunskill-Evans shows how, in plain view under the guise of liberalism, a regressive men’s rights movement is posing a massive threat to the rights of women and children everywhere. This movement is transversal in scope, including the bodies, agency and autonomy of women and children, while asserting men’s rights to bodily intrusion into every social and personal space. In a complete reversal of feminist gender critical analyses, sex and gender are redefined: identity is now called ‘inmate’ (a ‘feeling’ located somewhere in the body) and sexual role is said to be socially constructed (and hence changeable). This ensures a lifetime of drug dependency for transitioners, thereby delivering vast profits for Biog Pharma in a capitalist dream. Everyone, including every trans person, has the right to live freely without discrimination. But the transgender movement has been hijacked by misogynists who are appropriating and inverting the struggles of feminism to deliver an agenda devoid of feminist principles. An eye-opening book.

Body Politics

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Reading the Body Politic

Amy K. Kaminsky 1993

Body Politics

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American Body Politics

Felipe Smith 1998 Felipe Smith tracks the emergence of particular gender images—such as white witch, black madonna, mammy, and white lady—and their impact on early African American literature. Smith gives us a remarkable synthesis of historical readings combined with a highly original contribution to the comprehension of racial thought and literary writing.
Birth of the State - Charlotte Epstein 2020-11-12 This book uses the body to peel back the layers of time and taken-for-granted ideas about the two defining political forms of modernity, the state and the subject of rights. It traces, under the lens of the body, how the state and the subject mutually constituted each other all the way down, by going all the way back, to their original crafting in the seventeenth century. It considers two revolutions. The first, scientific, threw humanity out of the centre of the universe, and transformed the very meanings of matter, space, and the body; while the second, legal and political, re-established humans as the centre-point of the framework of modern rights. The book analyses the fundamental rights to security, liberty, and property respectively as the initial knots where the state-subject relation was first sealed. It develops three arguments, that the body served to naturalise security; to individualise liberty; and to privatise property. Covering a wide range of materials—from early modern Dutch painting, to the canon of English political thought, the Anglo-Scottish legal struggles of naturalization, and medical and religious practices—it shows both how the body has operated as history’s great naturaliser, and how it can be mobilised instead as a critical tool that lays bare the deeply racialised and gendered constructions that made the state and the subject of rights. The book returns to the origins of constructivist and constitutive theorising to reclaim their radical and critical potential.

The Body Politic - Jean-Jacques Rousseau 2016-03-03 'No true Democracy has ever existed, nor ever will exist.' In this selection from The Social Contract, Rousseau asserts that a state’s only legitimate political authority comes from its people. One of 46 new books in the bestselling Little Black Classics series, to celebrate the first ever Penguin Classic in 1946. Each book gives readers a taste of the Classics’ huge range and diversity, with works from around the world and across the centuries - including fables, decadence, heartbreak, tall tales, satire, ghosts, battles and elephants.

The Body Politic - Brian Platzer 2020-03-03 In the bestselling tradition of The Interestings and A Little Life, this “cleverly constructed and emotionally compelling” (JennyOffill, Dept. of Speculation) novel follows four longtime friends as they navigate love, commitment, and forgiveness while the world around them changes beyond recognition—from the author of the “savvy, heartfelt, and utterly engaging” (Alice McDermott) Bed Stay is Burning. New York City is still regaining its balance in the years following September 11, when four twenty-somethings—Tess, Tazio, David, and Angelica—meet in a bar, each yearning for something: connection, recognition, a place in the world, a cause to believe in. Nearly fifteen years later, as their city recalibrates in the wake of the 2016 election, their bond has endured—but almost everything else has changed. As freshmen at Cooper Union, Tess and Tazio were the ambitious, talented future of the art world—but by thirty-six, Tess is married to David, the mother of two young boys, and working as an understudy on Broadway. Kind and steady, David is everything Tess lacked in her own childhood—but a recent freak accident has left him with befuddling symptoms, and she’s still adjusting to her new role as caretaker. Meanwhile, Tazio—who once had a knack for earning the kind of attention that Cooper Union students long for—has left the art world for a career in creative branding and politics. But in December 2016, fresh off the astonishing loss of his candidate, Tazio is adrift, and even his gorgeous and accomplished fiancée, Angelica, seems able to get through to him. With tensions rising on the national stage, the four friends are forced to face the reality of their shared histories, especially a long-ago betrayal that has shaped every aspect of their friendship. Elegant and perceptive, “The Body Politic is a book about many things—what it means to be unwel, what it means to heal, how deep and strange friendships can be, and how hidden things never stay hidden for long” (Rachel Monroe, author of Savage Appetites).

European Women's Movements and Body Politics - J. Outshoorn 2016-01-12 This book examines how feminist movements have contested the dominant discourses and state politics that have impeded women’s autonomy over their bodies since the late 1960s. It deals with two important facets of this struggle, prostitution and the right to abortion, as they relate to the Czech Republic, the Netherlands, Portugal and Sweden.

Political Affect - John Protevi 2009 Political Affect investigates the relationship between the social and the somatic: how our bodies, minds, and social settings are intricately linked. Bringing together concepts from science, philosophy, and politics, he develops a perspective he calls political physiology to indicate that subjectivity is socially conditioned and sometimes bypassed in favor of a connection of the social and the somatic, as with the politically triggered emotions of rage and panic.

Bodies in Resistance - Wendy Harcourt 2016-11-29 As part of the emerging new research on civic innovation, this book explores how sexual politics and gender relations play out in feminist struggles around body politics in Brazil, Colombia, India, Iran, Mexico, Nepal, Turkey, Nicaragua, as well as in East Africa, Latin America and global institutions and networks. From diverse disciplinary perspectives, the book looks at how feminists are engaged in a complex struggle for democratic power in a neoliberal age and at how resistance is integral to possibilities for change. In making visible resistances to dominant economic and social policies, the book highlights how such struggles are both gendered and gendering bodies. The chapters explore struggles for healthy environments, sexual health and reproductive rights, access to abortion, an end to gender-based violence, the human rights of LGBTIQ persons, the recognition of indigenous territories and all peoples’ rights to care, love and work freely. The book sets out the violence, hopes, contradictions and ways forward in these civic innovations, resistances and connections across the globe.

The King's Two Bodies - Ernst H. Kantorowicz 1981
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